

From: rcrodders@att.net@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/18/01 4:51am
Subject: As a user of alternative operating systems such as BeOS,

As a user of alternative operating systems such as BeOS, OpenBSD, and Linux, and also as a former employee of a company (Be Incorporated) hurt by Microsoft's monopoly, I feel that the settlement doesn't do any justice.

Microsoft essentially gets a slap on the wrist and told to play fair. Meanwhile, Microsoft has managed to slip out three new versions of Windows doing the exact same thing they've been doing since the antitrust suit started, and aren't going to recompensate its competitors for its practices. Microsoft wins again.

In addition, Microsoft has just started shipping it's X-Box video game system, which is backed by Microsoft's monopoly. Microsoft has purchased several significant video game companies in an effort to become the powerhouse in the video game industry, and likely will significantly hurt its competitors which mainly utilize independant software development companies to produce games. Result: Microsoft will likely obtain a large market share, possibly even another monopoly. Microsoft wins again.

Not to sound completely biased against Microsoft, but their tactics need to be halted. The Department of Justice holds the only opportunity to correct Microsoft's behavior, and allowing it to operate as a single company will not do that.